



Ventura Business and Professional Women's Club

Post Office Box 6422
Ventura, California 93003

July 14, 1981

Board of Supervisors
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Subject: Ventura County Commission for Women

Honorable Board Members:

The Ventura Business and Professional Women's Club wishes to take this opportunity to encourage your Board to approve the establishing of a Commission for Women in Ventura County. We are proud to join the 16 other groups who have previously shown support for the establishing of this most important Commission.

As the Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs is representative of women in business and the professions, our membership believes strongly that the establishing of a Commission for Women is compatible with our goals, which are as follows:

To elevate the standards for women in business and in the professions;

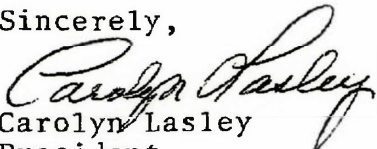
To promote interests of business and professional women;

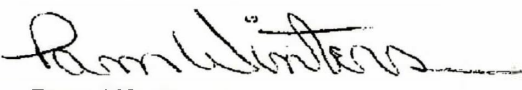
To bring about a spirit of cooperation among business and professional women of the United States;

To extend opportunities to business and professional women through education along lines of industrial, scientific, and vocational activities.

The Ventura Business and Professional Women's Club appreciates the opportunity to address your Board on this most important issue. Our membership is committed to participating in the Commission's projects as outlined in the proposal being considered before your Board.

Sincerely,


Carolyn Lasley
President


Pam Winters
Second Vice President

CL:JLM:lw


JoAnne LeFils-Moore
First Vice President


Norma Nick Taylor
Recording Secretary

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1981, AT 8:30 O'CLOCK A. M.

205.200

This is the time and date set for consideration to establish a Commission for Women, after hearing testimony and discussion, upon motion of Supervisor Lacey, seconded by Supervisor Erickson, and duly carried, the Board hereby approves the establishment of a Commission for Women, and financing for organizational development and child care resources development project for the amount of \$8,795.00; the corresponding accounting transactions necessary will be presented during final budget hearings at which time the final decision on budget will be made:

county of ventura

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Richard Wittenberg
Chief Administrative Officer

Robert C. Hirstenstein
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

July 14, 1981

Board of Supervisors
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Ventura County Commission for Women

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. That your Board determine if a Ventura County Commission for Women should be established.
2. That your Board determine if the program budgets included herein merit funding by the County General Fund.
3. That your Board direct the Chief Administrative Office to take any action necessary to implement the policy adopted by your Board.

DISCUSSION:

On May 12, the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition requested a study session with your Board concerning establishment of a Ventura County Commission on the Status of Women. At that time your Board directed the Chief Administrative Office to meet with representatives of the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition to discover the scope and intent of the request, and to report back to your Board. Since that time staff has had discussions with your Board concerning that scope and intent; has communicated with several Commissions in California; and, with information provided by members of the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition, has developed specific work programs and budgets associated with (1) organizational development of the Commission, (2) a Child Care Resources Development Project, and (3) an Information Dissemination Project. In addition, a resolution creating the Commission has been written for your consideration.

Basis of Request to Establish a Commission

The Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition, created in 1979 to form a network of information for and about women, has requested formation of a County Commission on the Status of Women so the women of Ventura County might become part of the larger network of state and national Commissions on the Status of Women, and benefit from the resources that the larger networks provide. Equally, such a commission would purport to provide a framework

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within which the resources of the many women's organizations in Ventura County might merge and thereby deal with identified problems in a more coordinated and efficient manner. In addition, such a commission would provide a channel through which the women of Ventura County could approach your Board and through which your Board could request assistance in information gathering, issue analysis and problem solving.

As your Board is aware, the socio-cultural change that has taken place during the last two decades has resulted in men and women assuming a combination of responsibilities that heretofore were associated with only men or only women. More than any other factor, responsibility for economic self-sufficiency has required women to reassess not only the careers and job options available, but also the best means to acquire the education, employment opportunities, child care, transportation and other support necessary to make that economic self-sufficiency a reality. As a response to those growing needs, Commissions on the Status of Women have been established nationwide. Today's request is a reflection of the nationwide need and is a local response by women to not only increase the options available to them, but also to work on problems affecting the quality of life for all the residents of Ventura County.

Arguments Supporting and Opposing Establishment of a Commission for Women

Arguments in Opposition:

1. Creation of a Commission for Women might set a precedent for recognition by the Board of other special interest groups.
2. FY 1981-82 will be the most economically austere year in recent history and allocation of any resources to any new group would be at the expense of ongoing programs or other new programs.
3. A Commission for Women might elicit a reaction from the residents of Ventura County that the Board of Supervisors is endorsing a particular philosophy with regard to women.
4. Creation of a Commission for Women might create expectations on the part of women that the Board of Supervisors would continually support the Commission once established.

Arguments in Support:

1. Because FY 1981-82 will be the most economically austere year for the County of Ventura in recent history and because many previously funded social programs will be reduced or eliminated, alternative methods of service delivery and coordination of existing human resources through a centralized organization might prove to be of great cost-benefit.
2. Fiscal austerity at the federal and state levels may become the basis for a reduction in the commitment to equal opportunity for women. Establishment of a County Commission for Women would provide a focus for work toward equal opportunity, would promote work toward specific program accomplishments, and would provide a viable working unit independent of federal or state Commissions.

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3. A Commission for Women would bring together the professional resources of women toward the solution of problems at minimal cost to the County.
4. Through its network of supporting organizations, a Commission for Women could keep the Board of Supervisors informed of public and private resources available and issues impacting County government and other public entities.

Proposed Accomplishments of a Commission

Reflecting your Board's concern that any activity proposed for a Commission be directed toward specific and demonstrably beneficial products, and reflecting the Chief Administrative Office's recommendation that any appropriation result in cost efficiencies and benefits, three projects and associated budgets are presented for your consideration. The work to be performed in each, with the exception of clerical support, would be done by Commission members or volunteers from other women's groups; the Commission would be a working Commission.

Budget - ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF COMMISSION

Direct Costs

STAFFING:

Senior Typist Clerk \$6345

Salary	\$5865
OASDI	390
Unemp. Dis.	30
Wrkrs. Comp.	60
	<u>\$6345</u>

In-Kind Support

STAFFING:

Organizational Development

Commission members:
Task Forces: on as-
needed basis
Commission Meetings:
15 members
x 12 meetings
x 2 hours/meetings
x \$10/hour
TOTAL: \$3600

Legislative Analysis

Ventura County Women's Lawyers
Assn.
1 Attorney: 20 hours at \$25/hour
\$500

National Women's Political Caucus
1 member: 20 hours at \$10/
hour
\$200

American Assn. of University Women
4 members: 80 hours at \$10/
hour
\$800

Federally Employed Women of
Ventura County
1 member: 20 hours at \$10/hour
\$200

TOTAL: \$1700

Coordination of Women's Activities
for Information Presented to
Board of Supervisors
(Information Gathering)
American Assn. of University Women

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Federally Employed Women of Ventura
County League of Women Voters
Ventura/Oxnard Chapter of N.O.W.
Simi/Conejo Chapter of N.O.W.
ACLU of Ventura County

6 groups
1 member from each group
3 hours per month from each
12 months
\$10/hour
\$2,160

(Attending Meetings)
Child Care Resource and Referral
Center
Coalition Against Household Violence
Ventura County Rape Crisis Center
Conejo Community Services
Interface Community
Operation Breakthrough
National Women's Employment and
Education
Child Abuse and Neglect
Domestic Violence Advisory Group
Voluntary Health Organizations
- Heart Assn.
- American Cancer Society
- March of Dimes

Commission members and volunteers
would attend meetings to gather
information for report-back to
Commission and Board of Supervisors
40 hours/month
12 months
\$10/hour
\$ 4,800

TOTAL: \$ 6,960

SERVICES AND SUPPLIES

Direct Costs

Telephone	\$400
Typewriter rental	200
Office supplies	200
Graphics	100
"Annual Report"	

In-Kind Costs

Rental of office	- County in-kind
Audit fees	- County in-kind
General Insurance	- County in-kind
Office Furniture	- County in-kind

No Value Assigned

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Copy costs 500

Agendas
Agenda backup information
Bi-monthly newsletter
Correspondence

Postage 450

Private Vehicle Mileage \$2,100

15 members
12 meetings
40 miles/meeting

\$0.29/mile

\$2,088

Conference and Seminar
1982 National Convention
of Commissions for Women

\$800 In-kind from fundraising

Membership and Dues 50

National Assn. of
Commissions for Women

Grand
Total \$10,345
Direct Costs:

Grand
Total \$13,060 from
In-Kind Women's Work
Support: and Fundraising

In reviewing the projects proposed for consideration by your Board, the Chief Administrative Office finds merit in the Organizational Development and Child Care Resource Development components previously described. As noted, establishment of a Commission for Women would provide the potential for resource coordination and problem-solving on a countywide level, and would, in addition, provide the basis for developing child care resources as a means of enhancing the employability and productivity of women whose economic well-being requires work outside the home.

The Information Dissemination Project is not recommended for funding. If your Board finds that a Commission for Women should be established, it is the thought of the Chief Administrative Office that any effort expended during a first year of operation would best be aimed at organizational development and one major special project. Information dissemination is currently available through many social agencies and this proposal is considered duplicative.

Your Board should note that the program budgets presented for the Child Care Resource Development Project and Information Dissemination Project are adjuncts to the budget associated with the Organizational Development Proposal. The Organizational Development proposal should be considered as the basic increment, with the Child Care Resource Development and Information Dissemination projects as supplements. To that end, the Chief Administrative Office is prepared to present final budget change requests detailing each of the three proposals. Those requests could be presented to your Board at the budget hearings beginning July 27, at which time your Board could make a final decision on the amounts to be funded during FY 1981-82.

If your Board has any questions regarding this letter or if additional information is needed, please contact the undersigned at extension 2862.

A list of organizations supporting establishment of a Commission for Women is attached for your information.

Sincerely,

RICHARD WITTENBERG
Chief Administrative Officer


JEAN GETCHELL
Administrative Analyst

JG:dCAO42I

cc: James Isom, Public Social Services Agency
Ginny Connell, Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition

COPIES TO:

CAO
Personnel (2)
Auditor
PSSA
ISD
Files (2)
Item 5
7/14/81

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GROUPS SUPPORTING ESTABLISHING
A COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Child Care-Resource and Referral
141 South "A" Street, Suite, 211, Oxnard 93030
487-0784
2. Ventura County Women Lawyers Association
3. Coalition Against Household Violence
4. Operation Breakthrough
5. Ventura County Rape Crisis
6. Conejo Community Services
7. Interface Community
8. Center for Employment Training
1234 W. Iris, Oxnard, 487-9821
9. Simi-Conejo NOW,
members = 113
10. FEW (Federally Employed Women) of Ventura County
11. Ventura County National Women's Political Caucus,
members = 50
12. Association of American University Women
Thousand Oaks - members = 400
Simi - members = 200
Camarillo - members = 200
Ventura - members = 200
13. Conejo Jr. Women's Club
14. Ventura-Oxnard NOW
members = 82
15. ACLU of Ventura County
members = 450
16. League of Women Voters
members = 200

ATTACHMENT